

LIGHT RAIL / MODERN STREETCAR PROJECT IN MIAMI BEACH

Project Description

The City of Miami Beach is seeking to advance a light rail transit (LRT) or modern streetcar system to connect people, businesses, and community attractions in south beach. This project is envisioned to address Miami Beach's increasing mobility needs and support environmental sustainability policies. It will serve as the first step towards future rail connection to Downtown Miami via the MacArthur Causeway.

- The system will be designed to be interoperable with a future extension to Downtown Miami.
- The light rail/modern streetcar system will be powered by catenary-free or off-wire technologies.
- The system will operate on exclusive rights-of-way to assure on-time reliability and expedited travel.
- The system will serve the Art Deco District, the Miami Beach Convention Center and their surrounding areas.
- The project will consist of two phases, each approximately 2.5 miles in length with stations spaced every approximately every 3 blocks, with bi-directional service.
- Phase 1 will run on 5th Street and Washington Avenue.
- Phase 2 will run on Alton Road, and 17th Street. Continuation to Dade Blvd is an option under technical analysis, considering land use, projected ridership, cost and additional mobility benefit.
- Phases 1 and 2 may be advanced concurrently. Decisions will be confirmed at a later date, pending results of financial and technical analyses.
- Environmental analyses are underway. These will be completed by early 2017, and documented in an Environmental Impact Report, that will be available for public review at that time.
- A concurrent Public Involvement Program was launched in June, 2016 and will continue through project development.
- The Project will be advanced as a Public-Private Partnership (P3), where the City will enter into a long-term contract with a qualified contractor (or concessionaire) to design, build, finance, operate, and maintain the project, pursuant to the concessionaire meeting all contractual performance conditions.

